

*REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**Pending Claims*

Claims 1-7 and 10-14 are pending in this application, claims 8-9 having been previously cancelled without prejudice. Claim 2 has been amended herein to correct an obvious typographical error. Claims 1 and 6 are amended herein. Reconsideration of all of the claims in view of these amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Objections to the Specification

The Office Action objected to a spelling error on page 2 of the specification. That error is corrected herein. The Office Action additionally requested that section headings be inserted in to the text of the specification. The undersigned respectfully submits that such section headings were inserted in the Preliminary Amendment submitted with the application. The Abstract has been presented on a separate page as a part of this amendment. Accordingly, either further clarification or reconsideration is respectfully requested regarding the subject instructions.

Claim Objections

The Office Action objected to claim 2 based upon a misspelling, which has been corrected herein.

Rejections Based Upon 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejected claims 1-7 and 10-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,926,503 to Kelton et al. Independent claims 1 and 6 have been amended herein to more clearly define and describe the invention. More specifically, claim 1 has been amended to include the features that: "said antenna elements are arranged in groups of at least two elements" and "each antenna element of the same group being subjected to the same preset delay". No new matter is added by way of these amendments, which are supported by the passage at page 3, line 19 through page 4, line 5 of the specification, and by the drawing. Independent claim 6 has also been similarly amended. The applicants respectfully submit that US 5926503 does not teach, suggest or appreciate these features. Accordingly, the applicants submit that the amended claims are clearly and patentably distinguished from the Kelton reference, and reconsideration is requested.

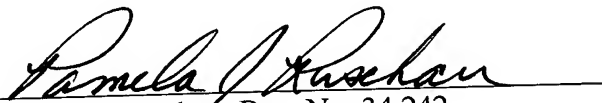
Referring to Figures 1 and 4 along with the passages at column 5, lines 66 through column 6, line 22, column 7 lines 20 through 38, and column 9, lines 56 through 60 of the Kelton reference, Kelton discloses two antenna elements 130 and 132. Antenna element 132 is subjected to delay element 142, while antenna element 130 has no delay. This is clearly different from the arrangement as claimed in independent claims 1 and 6 of the subject application, which requires that the antenna elements be "arranged in groups of at least two elements, ... each antenna element of the same group being subjected to the same preset delay. "

In arguendo, if antenna elements 130 and 132 of Kelton are considered to be two groups of one antenna element-only, then the reference does not teach or even suggest the feature of "said antenna elements are arranged in groups of at least two antenna elements" as required by the pending claims. Alternatively, if antenna elements 130 and 132 are considered to be a single group of two antennas (thereby containing the above recited feature), then the apparatus cannot include the feature of "each antenna element of the same group being subjected to the same preset delay," as likewise required by the claims, inasmuch as only antenna element 132 is subject to delay 142 and antenna element 130 is not subject to any delay. Accordingly, whichever way Kelton is interpreted, the Kelton reference is does not teach or even suggest all of the features as required by amended independent claims 1 and 6. As a result, applicants submit that the Kelton reference does not anticipate the pending claims. Further, inasmuch as the Kelton reference does not teach or appreciate the claimed subject matter, applicants submit that the Kelton reference, either alone or in combination with another reference, does not render the claims obvious.

Conclusion

As the pending claims are clearly and patentably distinguished over the disclosure and teachings of the Kelton reference, applicants respectfully submit that the patent application is in condition for allowance. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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